YOUR NEWSLETTER WITH THE LATEST IN RADIATION SAFETY

THE RADCO REGISTER

VOLUME 12, No. 1 ..... JANUARY 2002

A CECOM RADIATION SAFETY NEWSLETTER FOR THE US ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

"RAD-CPR " worked so nice..... we're doin' it twice..!!

Soon you'll be able to use the "SPBS" Software Program to generate your....

"Non-Ionizing" Equipment Inventory

...details inside

Your STATE and LOCAL RADIATION SAFETY OFFICERS (RSO) are: *(fill-in)*

	(NAME)	(PHONE #)
SRSO:	_____	_____
ASRSO:	_____	_____
LRSO (CSMS):	_____	_____
LRSO (USP&FO):	_____	_____
LRSO (MATES):	_____	_____
LRSO (AASF):	_____	_____

IN THIS ISSUE :

The distribution and content of this newsletter is directed to Army National Guard activities for which the U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Command (CECOM) Directorate for Safety, Radiological Engineering Division, serves as RSSO. The RADCO Register is published quarterly and is intended as a medium for the exchange of radiation safety information between the National Guard Bureau and CECOM. The primary distribution of this newsletter is to Occupational Health/State Safety Offices, U.S. Property & Fiscal Offices, and Combined Support Maintenance Shops, with local reproduction encouraged.

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www.monmouth.army.mil\cecom\safety

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ON GUARD…

It worked so Nice…. We're Doin' it Twice… !! (Introducing RADCPR-NI)

The CECOM DS together with the software development folks at Fort Lee, VA, have done it again! Introducing the Radioactive Commodity Property Report for Non-Ionizing radiation-producing equipment (RADCPR-NI).

Soon you will be able to run a software program that works with your Standard Property Book System (SPBS-R) to generate an inventory of all non-ionizing radiation producing equipment within your state/territory. It's similar to the RADCPR program you currently use to generate a radioactive commodity inventory.

But how does it work ??? Through normal property accounting procedures the program extracts specific items from all property accounted items…in this case all your non-ionizing radiation producing equipment (i.e. radio sets, transmitters, laser rangefinders and target designators, etc.). Once you have an inventory, the hazards associated with these items and devices can then be found in TB 43-0133, "Hazard Controls for CECOM Radiofrequency and Optical Radiation Producing Equipment," and the appropriate safety controls can be instituted.

Running this program will also meet the requirement for performing an annual physical inventory of your non-ionzing radiation-producing equipment and devices.

So there you have it! Now that you know what you have….you're well on your way to establishing a working NI RSP for your state/ territory.

Currently we are testing this new program here at Fort Monmouth and soon will be soliciting volunteers to help "road test" the program in the field. If you are one of those hands-on SRSOs or Signal BN NCOs (and work well with your Property Book Officer ☺) contact me @ gary.ziola@mail1.monmouth.army.mil

and we'll get you the software to run the program. And be sure to let us know how you make out.

Be on the lookout for this new inventory program to hit the streets in early FY 02. Both your ionizing and non-ionizing inventories will be available at your fingertips. Opportunity doesn't always knock twice. Sooooo when it satisfies *both* your annual inventories ….it's twice as nice. ☆

On Your "MARKS"…. Get Set…. STOP…!!

All you record keepers return to your starting blocks… there's been a false start!! We owe all of you great recordkeepers a big apology. No sooner was the last RADCO in the mail, when we discovered that the information we published on the MARKS system in regard to your Radiation Safety Program (RSP) was not 100% correct.

As you recall, one element of a properly administered RSP is whether your files are being maintained IAW the Modern Army Record

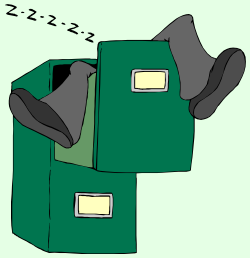
Keeping System, otherwise known as "MARKS".

So, here are the latest and greatest MARKS file numbers for radiation safety, as published in AR 25-400-2, the MARKS Regulation. And yes, we got 'em right this time:

For further information, such as the description or disposition of each MARKS number assignment, you can visit: http://www.rmda.belvoir.army.mil/ **(THIS IS A CORRECTED WEBSITE.)** and click on *Recordkeeping Branch*, then the *MARKS Changes, Additions, Recessions* link, and select the file number you want. It will kick you into the entire updated 11-9 listing.

So…… **ON YOUR "MARKS", GET SET**, and **GO** replace those old files (again!) with these new MARKS number assignments. ✯

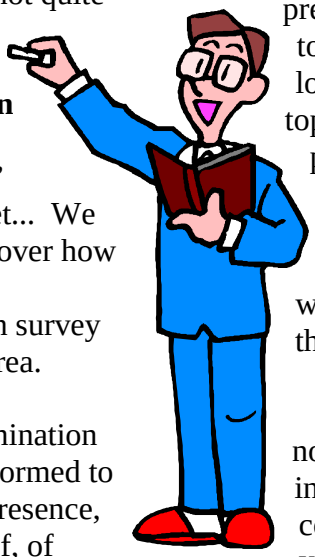
OLD FILE No.	NEW FILE No.	TITLE
385-11a/11d	11-9d	Radiation Safety Surveys (local inspections; includes wipe tests)
385-11b	11-9e2	Radiation Safety Training (course materials and aids)
385-11c	11-9f	Radiation Guidance and Analyses Records (includes SOPs)
385-11e	11-9g1	Ionizing Radiation Source Accounting Records (inventory; shipping/receiving; waste shipments)
385-11f	11-9a2	Personnel Dosimetry Reports (RSO files)
385-11g	11-9b	Dosimeter Controls
---------	11-9c2	Personnel Bioassays/RSO files
385-11h	15-1a	Radiation Safety Committee files
385-11i	11-9h	Radiation Safety inspections (includes external inspections)
385-11k	11-9j	Radiation Incident Files
385-11m	11-9k	Radioactive Material Licensing
---------	11-9p	Decommissioning Records
---------	11-9m	Radiation Operation Logs
385-11p	11-9n	Radiation Facilities
--------	11-9o	User Listings
10-1a	1f	Appointing Orders (SRSO, LRSO)



Did Someone Say "SURVEY" ?!? (Part 3)

Previously, we've "spelled out" the procedures for performing and then documenting a radiation dose rate survey.

But we're not quite finished with this "**Introduction to Radiation Surveys 101**" primer just yet... We still need to cover how to conduct a contamination survey of the work area.



The contamination survey is performed to indicate the presence, or lack thereof, of radioactive contamination in the storage/work area. These surveys are very important, as control of spreadable contamination is the first line of defense for preventing radioactive materials from entering the body, resulting in internal radiation exposures.

The amount of radiation emitted from radioactive contamination is often too low to measure with a survey meter, therefore, wipes, a.k.a. smears, are used. This, coupled with the fact that survey meters are not typically calibrated to detect the presence of removable surface contamination, make detecting trace amounts of contamination a delicate task indeed.

So, what's the procedure for performing a proper contamination survey…..??

As with the radiation dose rate survey you should prepare a sketch of the area to include any storage lockers, containers, bench tops, and/or shelving principal to your operations.

The skilled surveyor will also be familiar with the following:

a. The survey does not provide instant indication of contamination. Should you suspect that the area may be contaminated you must take proper precautions during the survey. Wear gloves and wash hands after the survey. If you are unsure as to whether the floor around the storage container is free from contamination, you may choose to wear shoe protection. Rubber boots, paper booties, or a plastic bag over each shoe will suffice. Note that different wipe material is used for different radioactive material. The NUCON (cloth) wipe is used to detect the radiations emitted from sources such as radium, americium, cesium, thorium, and uranium. For tritium and nickel sources use a slightly dampened nitrocellulose (metricel) wipe. This wipe exhibits a better efficiency for detecting the low-energy radiations emitted by these radioisotopes.

b. Take sufficient wipes to detect any contamination on the surface of containers, shelving, boxes, etc., within the storage area. Wipe an area of roughly 100 sq.cm. (4 in x 4 in) with each wipe. (It is not necessary to wipe unserviceable items in plastic bags.)

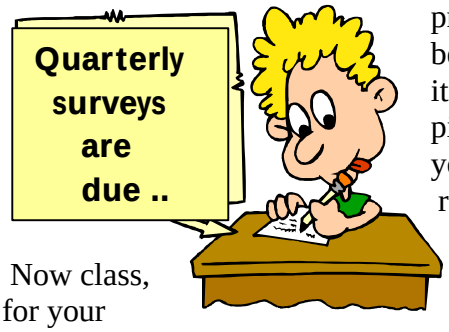
c. On the sketch show the location of each wipe so that if the wipe indicates contamination you'll know where to decontaminate.

d. Prepare the wipes for shipment to our lab per instructions on our "Wipe Test Analysis Request Form". Be sure to monitor the wipes for contamination prior to placing each wipe or vial in a separate paper folder or plastic bag, as appropriate.

In summary, to do a proper survey you must take an appropriate number of dose rate readings and contamination wipes to adequately characterize your storage area. Equally as

important as performing the survey is documenting, and retaining on file, a record of the results of these surveys.

This concludes your "Introduction to Radiation Surveys 101" primer.



Now class, for your homework assignment…run along and survey your work areas!!! ☆

AIR TODAY… (or your M8 may be) GONE TOMORROW. Purging your M8A1 AUTOMATIC CHEMICAL AGENT ALARM (CAA)

It has always been true that if you take care of your rifle it will take care of you. Well, the rifle is not the only friend you may have in a tactical situation. As some of our adversaries are now using chemical weapons, you may have to rely on your M8A1 CAA.

Can you depend on yours? You can if it has been properly maintained.

Yes, it may seem like a lot of trouble at times, what with having to send it in to the CSMS for leak testing, and having to package it properly and double bag it before Calibration will accept it. So, to save time when you pick it up from Calibration, you take it back to the supply room, place it in a locker, and there it sits until the next leak test date. Right…..? WRONG!

Preventative Maintenance (PM) Magazine, Feb 00, page 44, advises you to purge the M43A1 detector **one hour every month.** Are you doing that?? To keep the detector operating properly it must be purged frequently. Just like the Chemical Agent Monitor (CAM), it requires frequent operation to keep it working in tiptop condition**.**

CAUTION: For safety reasons, do not perform purging operations indoors. Conduct purging outdoors.

Remember to be careful when handling the outlet filter; it may be slightly contaminated. When it is no longer serviceable, your best bet is to double bag the outlet filter and send it to the USP&FO for disposal as RADWASTE.

M8A1 INDIVIDUAL CHEM-AGENT DETECTOR (ICAD) CONSISTS OF: M43A1 (TOP), M42 ALARM SYSTEM (BOTTOM), AC/DC POWER (RIGHT)

"But my LRSO at the CSMS tells me that I cannot open the case, and to purge it I have to open the case and reposition a toggle switch." Well, you misunderstood, you can open it up to reposition the toggle switch. What you cannot do is remove the detector cell.

To keep track of this action, make yourself a "Purge Log" where you can record the monthly purge. You'll be glad to know you're CAA is being maintained "mission ready" and you can show it to the Radiation Safety Program auditor, or the SRSO when he/she visits your unit.

So remember: A little air today will help to keep your M8A1 CAA from being gone tomorrow. ☆

.....in the field

by Lyle Farquhar

"WELL, SIR, THE 105mm ROUNDS MISSED THE TARGET, BUT THAT BROKEN TRITIUM SOURCE ON THE TANK BARREL HAS THE ENEMY RUNNING LIKE HELL!"

"Off-the-Shelf" but NOT.... "Off-the-Hook"

Army National Guard Civil Support Teams (CST) are needed now more than ever as a result of recent terrorist actions. In order to keep them operating in good standing, regulatory compliance is a must!

SRSO's, if you haven't taken a good look at your CST recently, there is no time like the present! Reports have been trickling into CECOM regarding the purchase of off-the-shelf Chemical Agent Detectors (CAD) containing radioactive material and radioactive source sets. The instruments are generally licensed and the source sets are exempt. But, what does this mean…????

Some off-the-shelf (non-military) generally licensed instruments require registration with the NRC for tracking purposes. These include devices with 10 mCi Cs-137, 0.1 mCi Sr-90, 1 mCi Co-60 or 1 mCi Am-241. All generally licensed items require compliance with 10 CFR 31! Owners of these devices, in this case, the general licensee, i.e. ARNG-CST's, shall:

- Ensure that labels affixed to device at time of receipt are intact and remain intact.
- Ensure that the device is tested for leakage every 6 months and maintain leak test records for 3 years.
- Test the operation of on/off mechanism and indicator every 6 months and maintain records of the tests for 3 years.
- Suspend operation if device is leaking or damaged.
- Comply with 10 CFR 20.2201 and 20.2202, "Reports of theft or loss of licensed material" and "Notification of incidents," respectively.

- Appoint an individual responsible for having knowledge of the appropriate regulations and requirements (this can be a Local RSO).

- Follow specific approved maintenance procedures for the instrument.

Now, the word exempt can lull an RSO into a false sense of security.

Exempt sources are exempt from some of the regulations, such as licensing but not others, such as transfer, inventory and disposal.

Good communication between CST units, SRSOs and CECOM is the key to avoiding regulatory problems when procuring such items.

Check with CECOM first!

By getting the lowdown on the regulatory requirements prior to purchasing any "off-the-shelf" radioactive commodity, your RSP will stay in control…!!!

A "SOLID GOLD" Performance

Where in the world can you find service as good as gold?? Well, look no further!

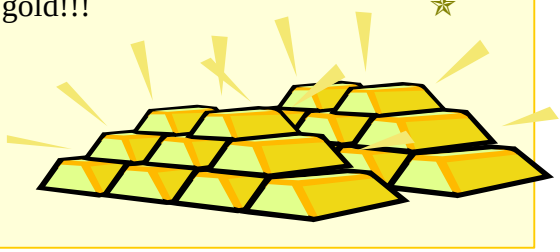
The CECOM Directorate for Safety, Radiological Engineering Laboratory (REL) has been registered through NSF-International Strategic Registrations (ISR), Ltd as an ISO 9002:94 certified laboratory. As a result the REL has achieved international recognition for an effective quality system for radiological testing and calibration services.

As you are well aware our REL is a testing and calibration laboratory that provides calibration and repair services of radiation detection instrumentation (i.e., AN/PDR-77), and analysis of radioactive test samples (i.e., quarterly storage area wipes).

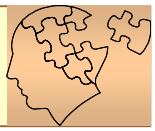
ISO ensures that the REL will continue to provide quality services for the ARNG as well as defendable data from both a technical and legal perspective.

A requirement of this registration is for us to obtain feedback from our customers (that's all of you), on how we are performing our services. On the last page of this RADCO is a Customer Feedback Survey Form that covers the major areas of our services. We would really appreciate you investing a few minutes to complete and forward this form to us. Your comments will enable us to continue providing the golden support you deserve.

And here at CECOM, there's never been a better time to invest in gold!!!



PUZZLES & BRAIN-TEASERS



QUICKIE QUIZ:

1. The new UN number for the shipment of the AN/UDM-2 RADIAC Calibrator set is:

   a. UN 3333
   b. UN 2915
   c. UN 3332
   d. UN 2910

2. Situation: You have performed a periodic dose rate survey of the radioactive material storage area. There is no need to document the survey results as long as they were less than or equal to the survey results as long as they were less than or equal to the background reading…?

   TRUE or FALSE

3. The Army Regulation (AR) that governs the requirements for record keeping (i.e., Modern Army Record Keeping System (MARKS)) is:

   a. AR 385-11
   b. AR 11-9
   c. AR 40-5
   d. AR 25-400-2

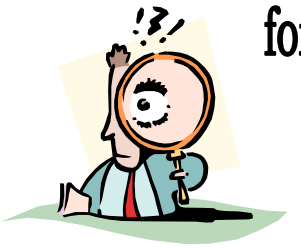
4. The old MARKS file number for Dosimeter Controls was 385-11g. The new MARKS file number is:

   a. 385-11f
   b. 11-9b
   c. 11-9c
   d. 11-9e

5. The Technical Bulletin (TB) that is very useful in identifying non-ionizing radiation producing devices is:

   a. TB 43-0137
   b. TB 43-0116
   c. TB 43-0133
   d. TB 43-0255

WORD SEARCH for RSOs



WORD LIST

FREEDOM	LIBERTY	PEACE
JUSTICE	AMERICAN	FLAG
HONESTY	INTEGRITY	PATRIOTIC
HARMONY	UNITED	

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

U N O I O M V D E C O S R O N
N I I G S Y H O N E S T Y I H
I U M A E A A A G S A A E M A
T E R L G F R E E D O M O E R
E M Y F Y T R E B I L T X T M
D T I Y T A D E C I T S U J O
I P A T R I O T I C T G P P N
A A M E R I C A N O N R G U Y
E Y T I R G E T N I D H N N U
M I S T A E C A E P G A T I I

… the answers are on the last page!!

It's Outta' the Question!

w/Burt "the answer man"

Our newest column to debut in the RADCO offers answers to questions we have received from the field relating to radiation safety. If you have a question ….we want to hear it!!

Our first question comes from Mr. Rad be'Bad out of Lost Gauges, Nevada.

Question: Mr. be'Bad asks: "What should I do if I lose a radioactive source?"

Answer: Double Down. The odds of losing 2 in a row are between slim to none (smile).

The real Answer: You must immediately notify your Radiation Safety Officer and the Radiation Safety Staff Officer (CECOM) any time a radioactive source is lost, stolen, or misplaced. Make a physical search of all areas where the source could have been used or stored. If the source is located pass the good news on to the RSO and RSSO. If after searching, the source is not found, a report of survey should be initiated. Whether the source is found or not, corrective actions must be taken to prevent a reoccurrence (amend procedures, provide additional training, etc.).

Notification to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission may be required based on the amount of radioactive material lost. The RSSO will ensure the licensee and other regulatory agencies are notified, as required.

Our next question comes from Miss N. Formed in Schools Out, Virginia.

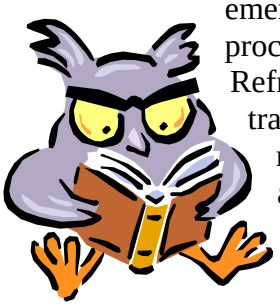
Question: Miss N. Formed writes: Are the training requirements for users of the M8A1 CAA, the CAM, and tritium fire control devices the same?"

Answer: **NO**, they are different and…**YES**, they are the same.

The better Answer: The items that you mention are covered by different Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) licenses; the M43A1 and the CAM are licensed to U.S. Army Soldier and Biological Chemical Command (SBCCOM) and the tritium devices (i.e., fire control devices such as the M1A1 collimator and M140) are licensed to the U.S. Army Tank-automotive and Armaments Command – Rock Island (TACOM-RI).

We can define "users" as those individuals who place in operation or operate devices containing radioactive sources. The individual user is authorized possession, use and performance of operational checks and services only.

Individual users of SBCCOM radioactive commodities must receive initial radiation training that includes safe handling procedures, biological effects of exposure to radiation and emergency procedures. Refresher training is required annually.



Unit commanders are responsible for ensuring that the appropriate training is conducted, documented and available for inspection by the RSO and the licensee.

Individual users of TACOM-RI tritium fire control devices are bound by the NRC license as follows: "Unit commanders are

required to ensure that soldiers using the devices do so in compliance with the appropriate Technical Manuals."

The TACOM-RI license goes on to list a number of requirements, such as: kept informed of the storage, transfer or use of radioactive material; instructed in health protection associated with exposure to radioactive material; instructed in their responsibility to report to the licensee any condition which may lead to a violation; instructed in the appropriate response to warnings; etc.

BOTTOM LINE: Although unit commanders are responsible to ensure that training is performed, the onus is on the SRSO to get it done.

We here at CECOM have put together training packets for all of these devices, and soon they will be available on our new DA RSO CD-ROM/ Website once it is online! Training packets will include a lesson plan and sign in roster.

This is "the answer man" signing off for now…I'll be looking forward to answering more of your thought-provoking questions in the next RADCO. ☆

NONIONIZING CORNER .....

Jump-Starting Your NON-IONIZING RADIATION SAFETY PROGRAM

Up to now, we've provided the nuts and bolts needed for developing your Non-ionizing Radiation (NIR) Safety Program. We had suggested that you:

☑ obtain a listing of your NIR equipment (check out Appendices C & D of TB 43-0133 for a good starting point).

☑ make copies of the radiation safety information in the TB for each of the systems/ equipment you have at your installation.

☑ gather any additional information you see fit from the appropriate TMs/TBs.

☑ place it all in a reference Safety Binder.

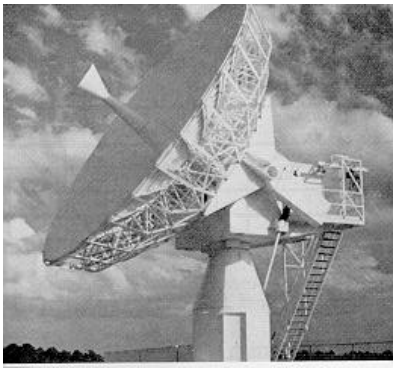
Finally, a listing of the personnel that routinely work with NIR producing equipment (operators/ maintainers) should be included in the binder. Information on these individuals should indicate who has received RF & Laser radiation safety training, which personnel are currently required to be included in a medical surveillance program (per AR 11-9, Para. 1-4o.(4)) and/or if medical surveillance is required due to any previously received RF &/or laser injuries, etc.

Ok, what's next? The next thing to do is to refer to TB 43-0133, specifically to Appendix F-1 (Sample RF/LASER SOP). This appendix will go a long way in helping you to develop the required SOPs. And don't forget to check out the Introduction Section to the TB as well! It's jam packed with useful information in setting up and maintaining a complete NIR safety program. Got any questions? Give us a call!! After all, we like to *"throw out a bone"* where ever we can!!

And speaking of "throwin' things" around…. let's see if we can throw you a curve on this one. Who out

there knows how to calculate the radiation hazard distance from an open or damaged (cracked) waveguide?

Here's the situation:



AN/GSC-52

Let's say you have either an AN/GSC-39 or an AN/GSC-52 Satellite Communications Terminal at your installation ….and believe me….you'd know it if you did! Both have a 38-foot diameter dish antenna that is capable of producing 8000-WATTS of power……

S M O K I N ' !!

Ok, on either system you'll find a combination of both rectangular and elliptical waveguide components. (This system uses a WR112 rectangular waveguide.) Let's assume we were pushin' the full 8000-watts into the waveguide on its way to the antenna. Now let's further assume that some maintenance was being performed and the transmitter were energized before a particular section of the waveguide was re-connected. What would be the ***power density*** available at an opened section of the rectangular waveguide (presume the location of this opened waveguide was fairly close to the output of the transmitter)?

So… get crackin' on this cracked waveguide problem! Is there anything else you need to know, or could you do it with what you already know? Don't just "throw in the towel"…. give us a call or fax us your answer! We'll mention all those that took a crack at calculating the waveguides *power density* in the next RADCO.

Good luck! ☆

QUICKIE QUIZ SOLUTIONS:

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a. UN 3333
b. UN 2915
c. UN 3332
d. UN 2910

2. Situation: You have performed a periodic dose rate survey of the radioactive material storage area. Statement: There is no need to document the survey results as long as they were less than or equal to the background reading. Question: The statement is:

TRUE or **FALSE**

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d. TB 43-0255

WORD SEARCH *for* RSOs

SOLUTIONS:

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

U N O I O M V D E C O S R O N
N I I G S Y H O N E S T Y I H
I U M A E A A A G S A A E M A
T E R L G F R E E D O M O E R
E M Y F Y T R E B I L T X T M
D T I Y T A D E C I T S U J O
I P A T R I O T I C T G P P N
A A M E R I C A N O N R G U Y
E Y T I R G E T N I D H N N U
M I S T A E C A E P G A T I I

RADCO REGISTER Change of Address Form

The RADCO Register is published by the CECOM DS to support the NGB State Radiation Safety Programs. Help us ensure you don't miss a single issue. Should you need to change or update your present address, please fill out this form and mail it to:
USACECOM, Directorate for Safety (DS), ATTN: AMSEL-SF-RE (ZIOLA), Building 2539, Fort Monmouth, NJ 07703-5024. (please make sure your current label is attached)

Name: _____

Organization/Facility: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____

CECOM RADIOLOGICAL ENGINEERING LABORATORY (REL)
CUSTOMER FEEDBACK SURVEY

It gets a little hectic in our REL and we forget to take a step back to see how we are performing. So, we thought it would be a good idea to send out this survey to find out how you view our two service areas of calibrating RADIAC instruments and analyses of your wipe/leak test samples. We would really appreciate you taking a few minutes to grade our performance by filling out our survey below.

Provide an overall rating by placing a check in the appropriate square to indicate your opinion of the area. If in your opinion a poor rating was deserved, please take the time to give us suggestions on how we can make that area better. After you have completed the survey fold it into three sections making sure our address is shown, staple together and send it on the pony express or if you'd rather fax it, the numbers are; DSN 992-6403 or COMM (732) 532-6403. Thank You!

	EX	GOOD	AVE	FAIR	POOR
1. TURN-AROUND TIME:					
a. Are instruments being returned calibrated within a week or less?					
b. Are instruments in need of repair being returned in a timely manner?					
c. Are sample analysis results being returned within a week or less?					
2. OVERNIGHT SHIPMENT					
a. Are you having any problems using our overnight service?					
3. CALIBRATION and ANALYSIS RESULT REPORTS					
a. Are all reports clear and easy to read?					
4. INSTRUMENT and LEAK TEST RECALL NOTICES					
a. Do the recall notices serve as a good reminder that your instrument(s) or leak tests are due?					
b. Do you receive these notices in a timely manner?					
5. REL STAFF					
a. When you have contacted our calibration staff do they provide friendly and courteous responses?					

Comments:

Commander
U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Command
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